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QUESTION OF DECLARING 1995 INTERNATIONAL YEAR TO OBSERVE THE ONE THOUSANDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MANAS EPIC

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Mihai C. Botez (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1994/L.31

Commemoration of the millennium of the Kyrgyz national epic, Manas

The Economic and Social Council recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

"The General Assembly,

"Considering that 1995 is the year that marks the millennium of the Kyrgyz national epic, Manas, which corresponds to the principles of the World Decade for Cultural Development, 1988-1997, 1/

"Recalling resolution 27 C/13.22 of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, concerning the commemoration of anniversaries during the period 1994-1995,

"Taking into consideration that the Manas epic has been a vital link in sustaining and unifying the peoples of the Central Asian region throughout their long history,

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1/ General Assembly resolution 41/187.

"Recognizing that the epic is not only the source of the Kyrgyz language and literature but also the foundation of the cultural, moral, historical, social and religious traditions of the Kyrgyz people,

"Bearing in mind that the epic promotes widely shared ideals and values of humanity,

"Mindful of the contribution that the commemoration of the millennium of the Manas epic can make to the cultural and human heritage and to the furtherance of international cooperation and understanding,

"Noting the freedom-loving legacy of the epic for the nations of the region,

"Noting also the ideals and principles contained in the "Memory of the World" programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

"1. Recognizes 1995 as the year commemorating the millennium of the Kyrgyz national epic, Manas;

"2. Welcomes the fact that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has assumed the role of lead organization for the commemoration of the millennium of the Manas epic;

"3. Encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in cooperation with the Government of Kyrgyzstan and other interested international organizations, to take all appropriate measures to observe 1995 as the year commemorating the millennium of the Manas epic;

"4. Takes note with satisfaction of the international activities undertaken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in collaboration with the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to spread international knowledge of the legacy of the Manas epic."